



APW

PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 5225.0254

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
TAKESHI SHIBATA ET AL. ) Group Art Unit: 1756  
Application No.: 10/743,290 ) Examiner: Unknown  
Filed: December 23, 2003 ) Confirmation No.: 7857  
For: METHOD FOR FABRICATING )  
SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND )  
EQUIPMENT FOR FABRICATING )  
THE SAME )

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the document on the attached listing. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

A copy of the listed foreign document is attached.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed document and indicate that it was considered by making an appropriate notation on the attached form.

An English-language Abstract of the Japanese publication is attached.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed document is material or constitutes "prior art." If the Examiner applies the document as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited document does not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of the document.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should the document be applied against the claims of the present application.

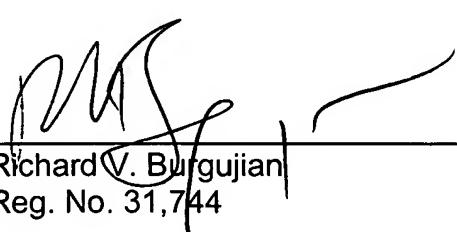
If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: 4/13/06

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Richard V. Burgujian  
Reg. No. 31,744

IDS Form PTO/SB/08: Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				APR 13 2006	Complete if Known	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> <small>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</small>					Application Number	10/743,290
					Filing Date	December 23, 2003
					First Named Inventor	Takeshi Shibata
					Art Unit	1756
					Examiner Name	Unknown
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number		

## **U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS**

**Note: Submission of copies of U.S. Patents and published U.S. Patent Applications is not required.**

## **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials <sup>1</sup>	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		JP 7-153657	6/16/95	Nikon Corp.		Abstract

## **NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials <sup>1</sup>	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
--------------------	--	-----------------	--

**EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.